



METNOTES



Issue 44

December 2009

Newsletter of the
Metropolitan Male Choir
of SA for the Friends of
the Choir

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Don Noblet's Farewell

As we reported in the September edition of MetNotes, Don Noblet's last concert as our MD was in Christchurch New Zealand on 27 October.

As a fitting tribute to Don's 28 years as MD, a cabaret dinner was held at the Tropeano Fuction Centre on Saturday 21 November. It was attended by more than 200 people, mainly present and past choir members and their partners, but also including some invited guests.

A number of speakers paid tribute to Don's outstanding contribution to the Metropolitan Male Choir, and messages were received from our two Vice Patrons, columnist Max Fatchen and Ian McNamara, host of Australia All Over.

Under Don's leadership the choir went from a 30 member choir, mainly performing at PSAs, to a 90 member choir, regularly touring overseas and interstate. (continued on page 2)

Gymanfa Ganu

Our first concert of the new year will be our Welsh Hymn Fest, the Gymanfa Ganu, on 28 February. You will be pleased to hear that this year it will be held in air conditioned comfort in Elder Hall. Ticket bookings are now open for Friends of the Choir. Just send in the cut-off slip at the bottom of this page.

Friends of the Choir Concert

The Friends Concert for 2010 will be held on 18 April at the Salvation Army Hall Arndale. We invite Friends of the Choir to let us know their favourite choir songs, for possible inclusion in this concert. Please limit your suggestions to a maximum of five.

Again, please use the booking slip below to order tickets.

If you are paying by cheque, please make it payable to "The Metropolitan Male Choir of SA Inc"

EVENT	PRICE	NO. OF TICKETS	TOTAL COST
Gymanfa Ganu Sunday 28 February 2010 at 2.00 pm Elder Hall Adelaide	\$10 PER PERSON		
Friends of the Choir Concert Sunday 18 April 2010 at 2.00 pm Salvation Army Hall, Arndale PLEASE SEND REQUESTS FOR SONGS FOR US TO INCLUDE	\$6 PER PERSON		

Purchaser's Name
Address.....
.....Postcode.....Telephone No
Post this form with payment and stamped self addressed envelope to:-
Milton Lewis, 559 Military Road, Largs North 5016.

Don Noblet's Farewell

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During the evening the guests were entertained by a number of musical items. The MMC sang a bracket of songs under the baton of their new Musical Director, Evan Patton, and a local jazz band, The Riverboat Shufflers, played in one of Don's favourite musical genres, 'Trad Jazz'. Don played some piano duets with Derelie Hewett, and to round the evening off, the choir sang a final bracket of songs under Don's leadership. This included a solo from our new Deputy MD, Stella Panozzo.

Doreen Noblet was instrumental in setting up the Choir's Ladies Support Group in the early 1990s. The group has raised considerable funds for the choir over the years, and Doreen's invaluable contribution was recognised during the evening. We all wish Don and Doreen a long and happy retirement.

It was a very successful evening, and a fitting send off for a well respected, hard working and generous Musical Director. Much hard work was done by a number of people in arranging the evening. However, we thank, in particular, our Past Presidents Bruce Whitehead, Bill Buxton & John Brimson for their efforts.

New Zealand Tour

The Metropolitan Male Choir concert tour of New Zealand turned out to be an outstanding success both musically and scenically. The social side of the trip was excellent as well. A late airline schedule change, plus an unavoidable delay in Sydney,

meant the majority of the choir didn't arrive in their Auckland hotel rooms until after 2 am! However, we soon recovered from this bad start, and the rest of the tour went without a hitch.

Forty three choir members took part, and together with wives and a few Friends of the Choir, we almost filled two 45 seat buses. The choir took part in six concerts from Bay of Islands in the north to Christchurch in the south, and everywhere we went we had very good, responsive audiences. The write-ups we saw in local newspapers also indicated that we had done a very good job.

I think the most memorable concert, as far as originality went, would have to be the one in Wanganui where the local choir sang "Click Goes the Shears". At the same time, one of the choir members, a local sheep farmer, sheared a sheep on stage, alongside his choir, using old fashioned clippers!

Grateful thanks are due to tour leader Bruce Whitehead, and his committee, together with RAA Travel, for the months of hard work they put into the tour arrangements. The choir is now looking forward to London 2012.

Proms Calendar

Local professional photographer, Andrew Dickman, who took photos of our Proms concerts in 2008 and 2009, has decided to produce calendars featuring the choir. They can be purchased from the following web page: <http://www.redbubble.com/people/lordveritas/calendars>

eMetNotes

We now have 79 Friends on the email list for MetNotes. If you would like to receive your copy 'Hot off the Press', and save us the cost of postage, send Bob Triggs an email. His address is triggs@lifestylesa.net.au

Diary Dates for 2010.

**28 Feb. 2.00 pm Gymanfa
Ganu at Elder Hall**

**18 April. 2.00 pm Friends of the
Choir Concert, Salvation Army
Hall Arndale**

**16 May 2.00 pm PSA Noarlunga
Cr Church of Christ, Christie
Downs.**

**6 June PSA 2 pm Minlaton
Yorke Peninsula**

**20 June 2 pm Film Afternoon
Capri Cinema, Goodwood Road**

**11 July. PSA 2 pm St Hilary's
Anglican Church, Morphett Vale.**

**25 July. PSA 2 pm Colonel Light
Gardens UCA**

**Sat 28 Aug. and Sun 29 Aug.
Annual Proms Concerts**

**11 Sept. Scholarship Selection
Rosefield UCA**

19 Sept. PSA 2 pm Seaton UCA

**24 Oct. PSA 2 pm Lutheran
Retirement Village, Hope Valley**

**27 Oct. 10 am UC Fellowship Day
Adelaide West UC**

**7 Nov. PSA 2 pm St Andrews,
Strathalbyn UC**

**4 Dec. Christmas Celebration
Elder Hall**

15 Dec. 6 pm Carols at RAH